pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3273 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 22nd August, 1988 and state:

(a) what are the reasons for not providing the information in regard to prices approved by his Ministry and prices charged by the concerned companies when the total number of formulations do not exceed 20 in number;

(b) what are the basis on which excuse has been taken that the number of products and prices involved in voluminous;

(c) whether it is a fact that Dextrose of Anil Starch, Dexamethasone of Merind, Calcium Lactate of Tamil Nadu Dada and Oxyphenyl butazone and Xylocaine of S. G. Pharmaceuticals are the only products involved;

(d) whether it is a fact that the issue involved is of public importance as it relates to overcharging the prices; and

(e) if so, what are the approved prices of each formulation and what price is being charged by the concerned company and how much unintended benefit is being made by each?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (e) The required details to the extent available would be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

**Phased manufacturing programme for Rifampicin**

1450. SHRI DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3733 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th August, 1988 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two years are over for which he phased manufacturing programme for Rifampicin was approved;

(b) what are the reasons for not specifying the name of intermediate in the phased manufacturing programme;

(c) whether it is a fact that his Ministry was not aware about the import content per kilogram of production vis-a-vis the import price of the drug when the phased manufacturing programme was approved;

(d) if so, whether his Ministry obtained these details; and

(e) if not, what are the reasons therefor and if so, what are the details of import per kg. of production of this drug at the time when the phased manufacturing programme was approved and at present?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) The two year period allowed for manufacture of Rifampicin from intermediate stage is reckoned from the date of commencement of production and therefore it varies from unit to unit.

(b) There are several intermediates involved. Most of the units are producing from 3-formyl Rifampicin SV. However one unit has proposed further backward integration from Rifamycin-S.

(c) to (e) Several factors including import content, outgo of foreign exchange and availability of technology were taken into consideration by the PMP Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now papers to be laid on the Table.

12.00 Noon

**PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

**I. White Paper on actual performance of Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited.**

**II. Report and Account (1987-88) of the Bengal Immunity Limited, Calcutta and related papers.**